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U. S. Has Grown Rapidly During the Postwar Years

Period Since 1945 Has Seen Big Increases in Population, Rising Incomes, and Many Political Clashes

Following is the second of 2 articles, reviewing important developments since World War II. This week we focus attention on events within the United States.

The space required to cover this vital period of history has made it necessary for us to omit a number of features which ordinarily appear. We hope our review of the years since World War II will prove useful to students for examination purposes and for a clearer understanding of today's great issues and problems.

AMERICA is in a time of change and growth. For example, the dozen years since World War II have seen a great boom in air travel, and the rise of television. Earnings and output have set new records.

Population

There are 22 per cent more people in this country today than when World War II ended. The total population of our 48 states plus the District of Columbia was about 140,000,000 in 1945, compared to the present 171,000,000.

Generally speaking, the swiftest growth has been in the West. Another important trend is the movement from farm to city. Farmers and their families made up more than 18 per cent of all our people in 1945 as compared to only 13 per cent in 1956.

By providing an ever-expanding market for goods and services, population growth helps keep America prosperous. But, at the same time, serious problems are created. Federal, state, and local agencies find it almost impossible to keep up with the need for more hospitals and schools, better streets and highways, adequate airport facilities, greater efforts at slum clearance, and so on.

Furthermore, major crimes are on the increase. There were 43 per cent more of these offenses in 1956 than in 1950. Part of the rise almost certainly is due to the growing congestion in and around our cities.

Government

Atomic agency. In 1946, Congress established a 5-man Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to supervise the production of nuclear weapons and the harnessing of atomic energy for peacetime purposes. During World War II, atomic development in this country had been managed by Army authorities.

Defense organization. Until 1947, control of the U. S. armed forces was divided between 2 separate organizations—a War Department, for the

Army; and a Navy Department, for the Navy. There was no separate Air Force agency. The largest portion of our air fleet was under Army control.

Ten years ago, Congress set up a new National Military Establishment, which in 1949 became the Department of Defense. This body was headed by a single officer, the Defense Secretary. In the President's Cabinet, he replaced the War and Navy Secretaries.

Three "departments"—for the Army, Navy, and Air Force—were placed within the big defense agency. Each of the three is headed by a Secretary—not of Cabinet rank.

Welfare group. A new Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) was created in 1953. It carries out a number of tasks, including supervision of the social security program. The head of this department is a member of the President's Cabinet.

The HEW Department grew from an organization known as the Federal Security Agency, whose chief did not hold full-fledged Cabinet rank.

Presidency. In 1947, Congress changed the "Presidential succession" rules. Before then, if a Chief Executive had died at a time when there was no Vice President, he would have been replaced by the Secretary of State. Next in line would have been the various other Cabinet officers.

Under present law, however, the Speaker of the House of Representatives is first in line after the Vice President. Next comes the President Pro Tempore (acting head) of the Senate, followed by the Secretary of State and other Cabinet members in a specified order.

The 22nd Amendment to the U. S. Constitution makes another change in rules affecting the Presidency. Adopted in 1951, it provides that "no person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice."

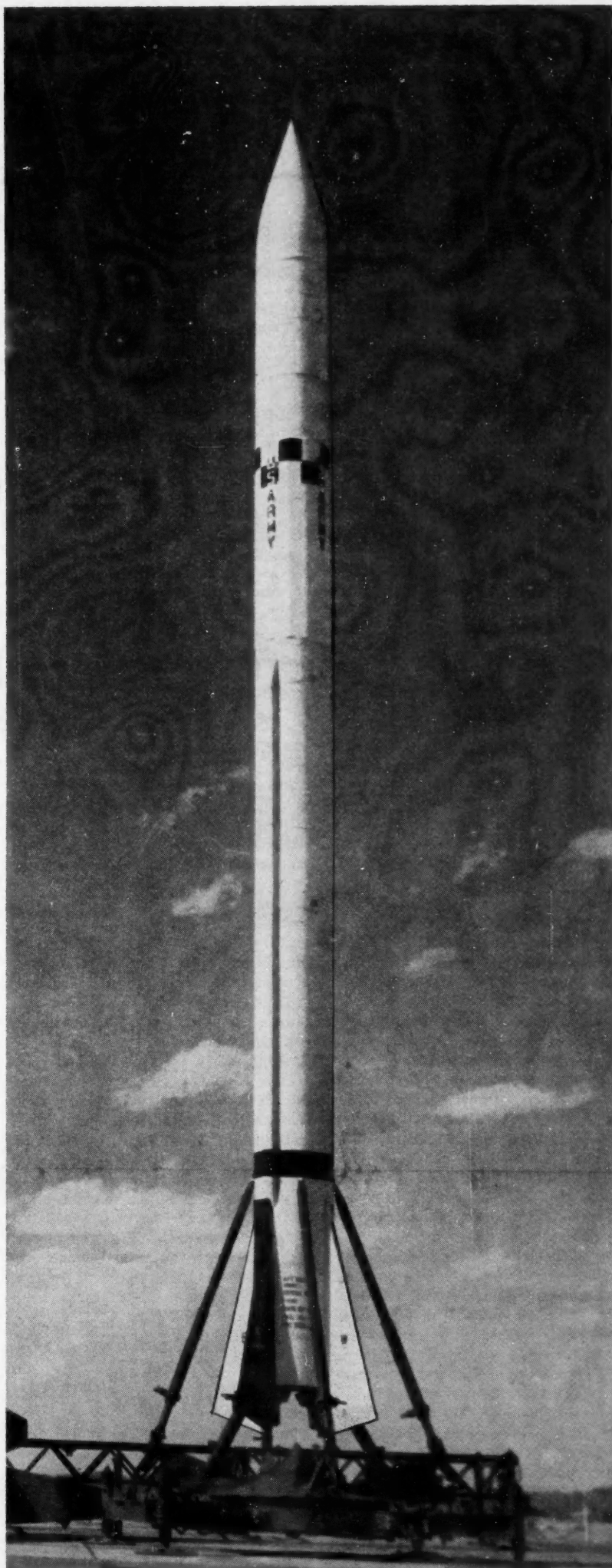
Politics

Chief Executive. After 12 years, 1 month, and 8 days as President, Franklin Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945. He was succeeded by Harry Truman, who had become Vice President on January 20 of the same year.

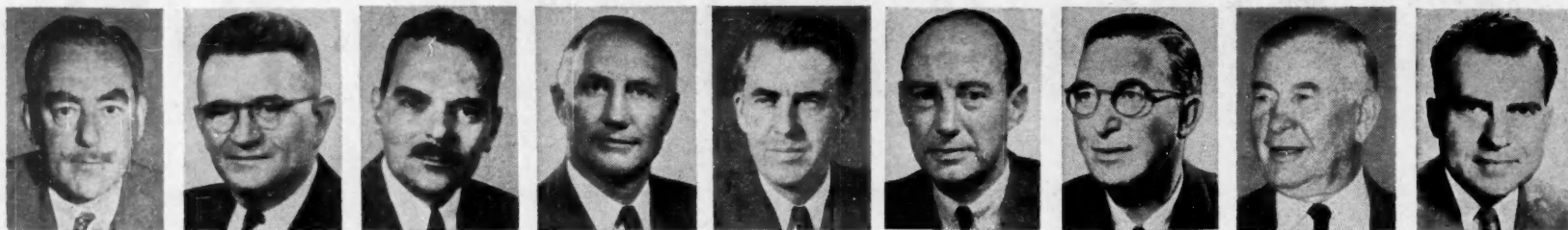
Truman, as Democratic contender for the Presidency in 1948, faced 3 prominent opponents. Foremost was

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THE CORPORAL, a guided missile that can carry atomic explosives. Our nation has made great strides in developing several types of missiles since the end of World War II.



U. S. ARMY



U. S. HISTORY MAKERS (from left): Dean Acheson, Secretary of State who was in office in 1950 when we began fight to keep South Korea from communist conquest . . . Lewis Hershey, Selective Service Director, managed draft of troops for World War II and Korean War . . . Thomas Dewey of New York, twice-

defeated Republican Presidential candidate . . . Strom Thurmond and Henry Wallace, third party Presidential candidates in 1948 . . . twice-defeated Democratic Presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson . . . his 1956 running mate, Estes Kefauver . . . the late Vice President Barkley, Democrat . . . GOP Vice President Nixon.



SPEAKER of House of Representatives, Sam Rayburn, Democrat . . . House Minority Leader, Joseph Martin, Republican . . . the late Senator Pat McCarran, Nevada Democrat, backed 1952 law on immigration . . . Oregon Senator Wayne Morse, once Republican, now a Democrat . . . late Senator Robert Taft of Ohio,

and former Representative Fred Hartley of New Jersey, Republicans, promoted law on labor-management relations . . . John McClellan, Arkansas Democrat, heads Senate probes of labor and management . . . the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, Wisconsin Republican . . . Alger Hiss, jailed for perjury in communist probe.



THREE Chief Justices of our time: the late Harlan Stone (1941-46); the late Fred Vinson (1946-53); and Earl Warren, who has presided over the Supreme Court since 1953 . . . General Douglas MacArthur, commander of U. S. and Allied forces in the Pacific during World War II, and of UN forces in Korea (1950-51)

. . . General Nathan Twining, Air Force leader who becomes Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff in August . . . Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson . . . President George Meany and Vice President Walter Reuther of AFL-CIO, our biggest labor organization . . . Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed a vaccine to prevent polio.

U. S. Has Grown Rapidly During the Postwar Years

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the Republican standard-bearer, Thomas Dewey. Another was Strom Thurmond, candidate of the southern "States' Rights Democrats." This group opposed Truman's civil rights policies. Henry Wallace, who had served in Roosevelt and Truman Cabinets (and as Vice President with Roosevelt for 4 years), headed the "Progressive Party." Wallace argued that Truman's attitude toward Russia was too tough.

Truman won the 1948 contest, with the late Senator Alben Barkley of Kentucky as his Vice Presidential running-mate. Dewey's partner on the losing GOP ticket was Earl Warren, now Chief Justice of the United States.

Republican Dwight Eisenhower defeated Democrat Adlai Stevenson for the Presidency in 1952 and 1956. Richard Nixon was Eisenhower's Vice Presidential running-mate in both campaigns. Stevenson had a different partner each time: Senator John Sparkman of Alabama in 1952, and Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee in 1956.

Congress. Of the 6 congressional elections since World War II, 3 have produced divided party control between Congress and the White House. Republicans won the 1946 congressional contest while Truman, a Democrat, was President. Elections in 1954 and 1956, on the other hand, have confronted GOP President Eisenhower with Democratic Congresses.

Two of the best-known figures in Congress are Representatives Sam Rayburn of Texas, a Democrat, and Joseph Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, a Republican. Rayburn today is the House Speaker—or chairman—as he

has been during all periods of Democratic control since 1940. Martin—Speaker during recent times of Republican control—is now the House Minority Leader.

Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon made news some time ago by switching parties. Elected to the Senate as a Republican in 1944 and again in 1950, he quit the GOP in 1952 and became an "Independent." He was elected to his third Senate term in 1956—this time as a Democrat.

Chief Justice. Our country's highest judicial post—that of Chief Justice—has changed hands twice since the close of World War II. When Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone of New York died in 1946, President Truman named Fred M. Vinson of Kentucky to replace him. After Vinson's death in 1953, President Eisenhower appointed Earl Warren, who resigned from California's governorship to become head of the U. S. Supreme Court.

Party chairmen. The Republican and Democratic National Committees have had numerous chairmen in the last dozen years. Currently heading these groups are H. Meade Alcorn, Jr., for the GOP, and Paul Butler for the Democrats.

Defense

Manpower. In 1945, as World War II was ending, our nation had nearly 12,300,000 men and women in its armed services. Under heavy public pressure, the government carried out a rapid demobilization program, so that we had only about 1,500,000 in uniform by 1947.

The Korean War, which began in

1950, required a speedy build-up of military strength. By 1952 there were about 3,670,000 persons in the armed forces. The Korean War ended in 1953, and our military manpower eventually declined to its present total of about 2,800,000.

The World War II draft—or Selective Service—program ended early in 1947. Because of continuing international strife, however, Congress enacted a peacetime draft law in 1948. Selective Service measures of one kind or another have been in effect ever since. The present law enables Uncle Sam to draft men in the 18½-through-25 age group for 2 years' active duty. Youths, under certain conditions, can volunteer for 6 months' full-time duty plus a lengthy period in the active reserves.

Weapons have undergone tremendous changes since World War II. Very few jet planes were used by any nation during that conflict, but today jets form the backbone of our aerial striking force.

America tested the world's first atomic bomb on July 16, 1945. Within a month after that test, U. S. forces had dropped 2 such bombs on Japanese cities, and Japan had agreed to surrender.

We exploded a still more powerful nuclear weapon, the hydrogen bomb, in 1952. According to General Nathan Twining, who is soon to become Chairman of the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, today's hydrogen weapons enable 1 bomber to "carry in 1 trip the equivalent explosive power of all the bombs we dropped in World War II."

Our Navy's first nuclear-powered submarine, *Nautilus*, went to sea early

in 1955. A second, *Sea Wolf*, began its ocean tests last January.

Much stress is now placed on the development of guided missiles and long-range rockets. Some of these weapons are already in the hands of U. S. fighting men.

National defense has long been a highly controversial topic. "Are we adequately protected?" This question is the subject of continuing debate in Congress and elsewhere.

Spending & Taxes

Annual U. S. government outlays since World War II have ranged from a low of 33 billion dollars (for the year ending in June 1948) to a high of 74.3 billion (for the Korean War year ending in June 1953). Present spending is at an annual rate of about 69 billion. Some months ago President Eisenhower asked Congress to grant nearly 72 billion for the year beginning next July, but many lawmakers want to trim sizable amounts from this figure.

Defense is by far the most costly item in the federal budget, and taxes on individual incomes are the largest source of revenue.

Our national debt which was 260 billion dollars at the close of World War II, now stands at 273.3 billion.

Production & Income

Since World War II, this nation has gone through a period of tremendous economic growth. We produced over 40 per cent more goods and services in 1956 than in 1946.

Our average income per person

(after taxes) in 1946 was \$1,126. By last year it had risen more than 50 per cent, to an estimated \$1,705. However, living costs rose about 40 per cent during the same period, and thus price increases swallowed much of our gain in earnings.

The term *inflation* has been in the news frequently during recent years. Inflation is characterized by a heavy demand for goods and services, and by rapid increases in the cost of living. It brings much hardship to people whose incomes—for one reason or another—do not rise at all, or at least not nearly so rapidly as do prices and living costs.

Agriculture

At the end of the 1940's, a severe drought struck large parts of the Great Plains. It has continued into 1957, but there are signs that it may now be breaking up.

Uncle Sam has provided loans and various other forms of assistance for farmers in the drought-stricken areas. In some cases, too, state and local governments have furnished aid.

Even though the drought hampered farm production on the Great Plains, one of our big agricultural problems in recent years has been the accumulation of crop surpluses. Improvements in seed, fertilizer, and equipment enable farmers to produce crops in far greater quantity than our nation can use or sell.

There was a heavy demand for food and other farm items during World War II and in the years immediately afterward, but eventually it tapered off. By the early 1950's, we started piling up big surpluses of wheat, cotton, and various other products.

When there is an oversupply of any item, its price tends to fall. This has been true of farm crops during most of the 1950's. The federal government tries, in various ways, to help farmers cope with the problem of surpluses and low prices.

In the first place, the government has acquired and stored large quantities of surplus farm items in order to keep them off the market. It now holds more than 8½ billion dollars' worth.

With respect to various surplus crops, the government carries out *compulsory* acreage reduction programs. These are put into effect, though, *only* if approved by two-thirds of the farmers who raise the crops involved.

Last year, Congress authorized a "soil-bank" program, under which farmers receive federal payments if they *voluntarily* withdraw part of their land from the production of surplus crops.

(At present, there is considerable doubt as to how long the soil-bank project will continue. A move is under way, supported by quite a few lawmakers, to end a major part of it this year.)

The government makes efforts to protect farmers' incomes by supporting—or guaranteeing—the prices of major farm products. It guarantees that the producer will receive a certain per cent of *parity* for his crop. Parity represents a price level which is said to give farmers a fair income in comparison with their expenses. It goes up and down as farmers' living costs rise and fall.

During nearly all the postwar period, agricultural problems and farm legislation have been a major topic for political debate.

Labor

The year 1946 was a time of unrest. Our country was shifting back to a peacetime economy after World War II. Problems growing out of this change led to major work stoppages in practically every big American industry. Rightly or wrongly, these stoppages caused much bad feeling toward labor unions.

Taft-Hartley. Over President Truman's veto, Congress passed the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947. This measure is generally known as the Taft-Hartley Act—after its chief sponsors, the late Senator Robert Taft of Ohio and former Representative Fred Hartley of New Jersey.

The Taft-Hartley Act put a number of restrictions on unions. Supporters of the measure argued that

States and a sizable number in Canada.

Senate probe. During recent months, much attention has been focused on racketeer influence in labor-management relations. A congressional committee headed by Senator John McClellan of Arkansas is conducting a probe into this subject.

"Automation." This new word refers to a major trend in American industry today. Defined as simply as possible, it means the use of machines to run and regulate other machines. Automation cuts down on the number of workers needed for certain types of factory jobs, but it creates a big demand for skilled technicians.

Power & Resources

This nation's electric generating capacity in 1955 was considerably more

of 1957. It will furnish a considerable amount of electricity for use in the Pittsburgh area.

Offshore oil. In 1953, Congress gave up federal claims to some rich undersea petroleum deposits near the U. S. coast line. Coastal states thus gained undisputed possession of the "submerged" oil fields within their seaward boundaries. (These boundaries are 3 miles from shore in some cases, 10½ in others.)

St. Lawrence Seaway. In 1954, after many years of debate, Congress decided that our nation should join Canada in opening the upper St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes to large ocean vessels.

Many cities along the Great Lakes look forward to becoming "seaports" when the job is completed—possibly in 1959. Besides extensive dredging, this seaway project involves the con-



HOW TO BUILD enough schools to meet our needs has been a big problem for the nation's communities in last 12 years

these were necessary, to protect employers and the general public. Opponents replied that the law was partial to businessmen at the expense of workers.

One of the major Taft-Hartley provisions was a ban on the *closed shop*—a system under which employers agree that they will hire only union members.

(The *union shop*—an arrangement under which new employees must join the union within a certain length of time after being hired—is not forbidden by the Taft-Hartley Act. However, it is banned by so-called "right-to-work" legislation in more than a third of our states.)

Ever since 1947, labor leaders have tried—without success—to have the Taft-Hartley Act repealed or extensively changed.

Merger. Within the labor movement itself, the biggest news of recent years was the 1955 merger of our nation's 2 largest labor groups—the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). The combined AFL-CIO—headed by George Meany—has about 15,000,000 members in the United

States and a sizable number in Canada.

than double the amount available at the close of World War II.

Federal role. Of our facilities to provide electric current for general public use, the federal government owned about 10 per cent in 1945, and about 15 per cent in 1955. Federally produced power comes largely from the government's big "multiple-purpose" dams (such as those in the Tennessee Valley and the Pacific Northwest), which also serve in connection with irrigation, navigation, and flood control.

Uncle Sam's activities in the electric power field are a subject of continuous and bitter controversy. On one hand it is argued that federal plants help provide cheap and abundant electricity for America. On the other hand, many groups feel that such projects compete unfairly with the private power industry—and are a burden to the nation's taxpayers.

Nuclear power. In the future, much of our electricity may be produced from the atom. Several large-scale atomic power plants are now under construction. One of these, at Shippingport, Pennsylvania, is scheduled to start operating before the end

struction of huge dams, which will furnish hydroelectric power.

Immigration

Refugees. Several hundred thousand refugees—principally European—have entered America within the last dozen years. Those who came shortly after World War II were people who had been made homeless in that conflict. Later, we began receiving many from behind the Iron Curtain.

Congress, from time to time, has passed temporary laws to bring in specified numbers of the refugees. The most recent was the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, admitting 214,000. It expired at the end of last year. President Eisenhower seeks a new law on the admission of refugees, starting at a rate about 67,000 annually.

More than 30,000 of the people who fled Hungary, after last year's unsuccessful revolt against Soviet rule in that nation, have been allowed to enter the United States. Most of these have been brought here on a temporary basis, but Eisenhower wants Congress to let them stay permanently.

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An Eventful Era

(Continued from page 3)

McCarran-Walter Act. This measure, passed in 1952, is our country's basic immigration law. Its provisions will stay in effect year after year, unless Congress changes them.

It admits immigrants according to *national origins quotas*, based on the sizes of the various nationality groups in America at the time of the 1920 census. Under the McCarran-Walter Act, about 155,000 "quota immigrants" may enter the United States each year. Also, the law admits certain groups—Latin Americans, for instance—without regard to national origins quotas.

those who believe that we should maintain high trade barriers in order to protect American producers against foreign competition.

For many years, our foreign commerce has operated under a *reciprocal trade law*, which lets the President make agreements with other nations in order to reduce tariffs and promote trade. The program was first set up in 1934, and Congress has renewed it on various occasions since. The most recent renewal was in 1955, for a period of 3 years.

Schools

The U. S. school population is growing rapidly. Public elementary and high schools, for example, now serve

—or merge—their white and Negro school systems. Others bitterly denounced the Court, and are resisting the anti-segregation decree.

The Supreme Court does not demand an *immediate* end to segregation. This point was made clear in a 1955 ruling—which did, however, call for "a prompt and reasonable start" toward integration.

In Congress. President Eisenhower seeks congressional approval of a measure aimed at giving federal authorities a bigger role in safeguarding the rights of Negroes and other minority groups. For instance, this measure would give the Attorney General power to act against any local officials who might try to keep members of such groups from voting.

greatly improved. Even so, numerous families still live in crowded and unhealthy surroundings.

The federal government has helped many veterans and other people to obtain loans for home-building purposes. Also, it gives financial aid to local communities that build and operate publicly owned housing projects for families with low incomes.

Health. Tolls taken by cancer and heart ailments are extremely high, though physicians and surgeons are making progress toward bringing these afflictions under control. Modern drugs, meanwhile, have substantially reduced the death tolls of certain diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia.

Ray-producing substances known as *radioisotopes*—which our atomic laboratories can now produce in great quantities—have become extremely valuable as tools for medical research and treatment.

An important trend since the close of World War II has been the rapid growth of privately operated health insurance programs. Today these give some degree of protection to more than 100,000,000 Americans.

The federal government plays various roles in the fight against disease. For example, it spends large sums on medical research, and it helps local groups to finance the construction of hospitals.

Dr. Jonas Salk, with his anti-polio vaccine, has made medical history. This drug, pronounced effective in 1955 after extensive tests, has now been administered to millions of children and young people.

Loyalty

Our postwar struggle with Russia soon led to grave concern about the activities of communists in America. Quite a few cases of spying were reported. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed in 1953, after being convicted of transmitting U. S. atomic secrets to Russia during World War II.

The case of Alger Hiss received much publicity. He was accused of belonging to a communist spy ring while holding a responsible State Department job. Hiss denied this charge, but in 1950 was convicted by a jury and sent to prison on grounds that he had lied under oath when making the denial. Now free after completing his prison term, Hiss still maintains that he was innocent.

Communism became an important political issue. Republicans, citing the Hiss case and others, claimed that the Democrats were far too soft toward communists at home and abroad. It was charged that many Reds had worked their way into key governmental positions, where they could obtain secrets and could influence our foreign policy.

Democrats replied that the Truman administration had: (1) set up a loyalty program to weed subversives out of the government; (2) prosecuted U. S. Communist Party bosses in court; and (3) assumed leadership in the free world's struggle against international communism.

In 1950, the late Republican Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin began making headlines with his charge that there were numerous Reds in the State Department and other agencies of the Truman administration. Later, he launched similar attacks upon the Eisenhower administration.

McCarthy's friends regarded him



YOUNG EUROPEAN REFUGEES, arriving here to start a new life, have a first look at the U.S.A. from their ship

President Eisenhower wants Congress to relax some of the immigration restrictions contained in the McCarran-Walter measure.

Foreign Trade

Our nation's exports, or sales abroad, have greatly exceeded its imports, or purchases, every year since World War II. Foreign countries have obtained large sums of money, in grants and loans from the U. S. government, to help them pay for the difference between what they sell to us and what they buy.

In total volume, our foreign trade has increased a great deal. Exports rose from about 9½ billion dollars' worth in 1946 to a record 19 billion in 1956. Imports, during the same period, rose from about 5 billion to 12½ billion.

Meanwhile, the political struggle over tariffs and other trade restrictions—a dispute as old as America itself—has continued in Congress and elsewhere.

Many people feel that we should keep our trade barriers low, and purchase large quantities of foreign goods. This policy, they argue, will promote our own prosperity as well as that of our friends and allies abroad. On the other hand, there are

nearly 32,340,000 pupils. This compares to a figure of 23,300,000 in 1946.

The increase has made it necessary for states and communities to provide thousands of new classroom buildings. For some years there has been a bitter controversy over whether Uncle Sam should start a large-scale program to help finance the construction of these schools. President Eisenhower tried unsuccessfully to win congressional approval of such a program last year, and he is making another attempt now.

It should be noted, of course, that the national government *already* provides school aid in some cases. Since 1951, for example, Uncle Sam has spent well over a billion dollars to help build schools in communities whose populations have mushroomed because of nearby defense enterprises.

Civil Rights

Segregation. On May 17, 1954, the U. S. Supreme Court unanimously declared that the Constitution prohibits racial segregation in our public schools. Until then, more than a third of the states had maintained separate schools for their white and Negro pupils.

After the 1954 decision, certain states immediately began to *integrate*

Efforts to obtain passage of a similar bill last year were defeated by lawmakers who felt that civil rights matters should be left to the states.

Welfare

Social security. The Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) program, established during the 1930's, continues to expand. Under this program, workers and employers make regular contributions into a fund that eventually provides retirement benefits for the workers and their dependents.

Through the years, there have been numerous changes in the program. The general trend is toward bigger contributions to the retirement fund, toward larger benefit payments, and toward bringing more workers into the system. About 90 per cent of all "gainfully employed" Americans are now taking part in OASI.

Housing, just after the close of World War II, was often mentioned as America's "No. 1 problem." Servicemen—returning to civilian life—were eager to establish homes of their own, and there weren't enough houses and apartments to go around.

Millions of dwellings have been built within the last dozen years, and therefore the housing situation has

as our nation's outstanding fighter against communism. Opponents claimed that he specialized in false and reckless accusations.

In 1954 the Senate censured—or condemned—McCarthy by a vote of 67 to 22. It did this largely on grounds that he had spoken abusively about other senators. His influence then declined, though he kept a number of extremely devoted followers.

Statehood

The U. S. territories of Alaska (population 209,000) and Hawaii (population 525,000) have repeatedly sought admission to the Union as full-fledged states. The issue is before Congress again this year, and it remains to be seen what action the lawmakers will take.

Five years ago, Puerto Rico became a "commonwealth"—practically self-governing in local matters.

In Conclusion

The outstanding national trends within the last dozen years have been:

(1) Swift growth in population. Our gain during this period equals nearly twice the entire population of Canada.

(2) Unprecedented prosperity for our nation as a whole, though certain groups have not shared in it so fully as others.

(3) Tremendous progress in science.

Events within the United States haven't loomed nearly so large as those abroad. Moreover, some of our most serious problems here at home—heavy federal spending and high taxes, for instance—result mainly from present-day world strife. There is a general feeling that, if large-scale war can be avoided, America will be able to handle her purely national and local problems without too much difficulty.

—By TOM MYER

Your Vocabulary

In each of the sentences below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 7, column 4.

1. The President flew over the *afflicted* (ä-flīkt'ēd) area. (a) entire (b) fringe (c) stricken (d) safer.

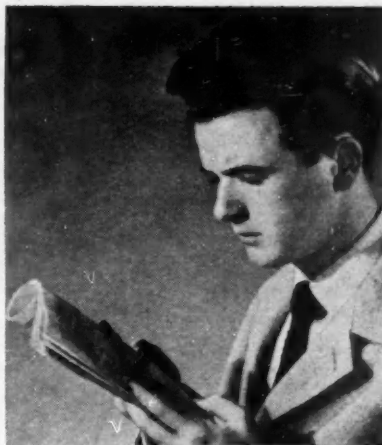
2. Each candidate will *indubitably* (in-dū'bi-tūh-bli) be asked his opinion of this bill. (a) always (b) never (c) undoubtedly (d) occasionally.

3. To say Africa's resources are *diverse* (di-versé) means they are (a) scarce (b) varied (c) undeveloped (d) hard to get.

4. An *equable* (ēk'wah-b'l) climate is one that's (a) often hot (b) often cold (c) unvarying (d) changeable.

5. Discussions of such a measure have led to *contention* (kōn-tēn'shūn). (a) debate and argument (b) agreement (c) lengthy speeches (d) witty statements.

6. The negotiators agreed on an *agenda* (ū-jēn'dū). (a) meeting place (b) order of business (c) truce line (d) armistice day.



PHOTOS BY DEVANEY

WANT ADS in the newspapers can help you if you want a job for the summer—or, if you're not going on to school, in finding a permanent position

A Career for Tomorrow

Looking Beyond High School

ARE you one of the estimated 1,358,600 high school students who are receiving their diplomas this year? If so, chances are that you have already made plans about your next move after high school.

Perhaps your plans include college study. If they do, you may want to read a new book entitled "College Freshmen Speak Out." Written by Agatha Townsend, it is published by Harper and Brothers in New York City, and sells for \$2.50.

The book gives advice on how to choose the right college, what to do to help you succeed in obtaining a degree, and other helpful hints along these lines.

If you don't plan to go to college, it is well to remember that some additional training beyond high school will pay dividends. A few months in a business college or some courses in a technical school can be helpful in securing employment. You can take such courses in the evening or through correspondence schools if you plan to have a daytime job.

The U. S. Department of Labor points out that "extra training" is one of the best assets a young job-seeker can have. Employers, the government office declares, prefer to hire teen-agers who show enough initiative to strive for additional training in the field of employment they choose.

Your State Director of Vocational Education, with offices in the state capital, can give you a list of nearby technical and business schools.

In more than 100 skilled crafts, workers can get specialized training through formal apprenticeship programs. The programs include on-the-job training and, in many cases, classroom study as well. Get in touch with local labor union officials or write to the Bureau of Apprenticeship, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C., for information on such programs.

Moreover, the Department of Labor will supply you with lists of other publications dealing with various occupational fields, the employment outlook in certain vocations, and other valuable job information. Your nearby office of the State Employment Service can also give you helpful information about apprenticeship programs and job openings in your area.

Uncle Sam has a number of training programs for persons interested in government service. A pamphlet entitled "Federal Careers" tells about these programs and also gives other information about job opportunities with the federal government. You can secure this pamphlet for 60 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

What are some of the vocational fields that offer the best long-range employment prospects? The Department of Labor says that the job outlook is particularly bright in the following:

Teaching. As we know, there is a nation-wide shortage of teachers. There are expected to be more job openings than there are teachers to fill them for many years to come. Salaries, which now average a little more than \$4,000 a year, are edging upward.

Engineering and technical workers. Most industries are expected to increase their engineering and technical staffs in the years ahead, at least so long as the nation's high rate of prosperity continues. The trend toward automation—the use of machines to run other machines—is opening up many new jobs for men and women with technical and mechanical training.

Science. The country's industrial plants are expected to employ more and more research workers—physicists, chemists, geologists, biologists, and others—to develop new products and to make improvements in existing ones.

Health. There is a shortage of workers in most branches of medicine and health, particularly in nursing.

Business. The retail trades—selling, advertising, merchandising, and a host of others—are expected to provide good job opportunities for many years to come. Though specialized training is helpful in this field, there are many openings for teen-agers who are willing to learn their duties on the job.

Office work. The outlook is bright for a continued rise in job openings in office work, such as typing, stenography, secretarial work, bookkeeping, and many others.

—By ANTON BERLE

Vacation Plans

By Clay Coss

MANY students already know what they're going to do this summer. A number of boys who are graduating plan to enter military service before going to college or getting permanent jobs. Some boys and girls have decided to work full or part time until school reopens. Still others count on just taking it easy.

Everyone needs to get a certain amount of rest, relaxation, and enjoyment during vacation. But your summer will be both wasted and boring if you do nothing but plain loafing or engage in aimless activities.

You can have a much better time if you do a little thinking and planning. Try to figure out how to make yourself a well-rounded person, for too many people today are unhappy because they are not balanced individuals. They don't know how to enjoy a full, rich existence.

If, for example, you are the studious, serious type, take up some lighter interests. If you don't already engage regularly in some outdoor sport, such as tennis or swimming, now would be a good time to begin. A hobby, such as photography or playing a musical instrument, can give you lifelong pleasure.

If, on the other hand, you are the outdoor, non-studious type, make a real effort to interest yourself in reading for recreation. There will be many times when you can't engage in sports or other such activities. One who can enjoy sitting down and reading is insured against boredom when there is no other entertainment available in leisure time.

Make use of your public libraries. If your parents subscribe to magazines, read the stories and articles in them. You can buy paper-back books on a great variety of subjects at a low price.

In addition to developing varied interests, enjoy the satisfaction of doing your part at home—of performing jobs



FIELD'S DRAWING

TENNIS IS A GAME you can play long after you leave school

around the house that perhaps you have not had time to do during the school year.

Finally, you can help to safeguard our way of life by increasing your knowledge of current affairs. You will have more time than usual to keep in daily touch with newspaper articles and editorials, to read magazines which deal with public problems, and to follow radio or TV programs that discuss these issues.

By engaging in such activities, both you and your country will profit, and life will be much more interesting and meaningful to you.

The Story of the Week

Colombia Looks Ahead

Colombia hopes it can once again establish a democratic form of government. The South American land is already doing away with restrictions on the press and on political meetings—restrictions which had been imposed by former President Gustavo Rojas Pinilla.

Rojas Pinilla was forced out of office earlier this month when he tried to extend his rule, without elections, for another 4 years. A group of military leaders, assisted by a special council made up of various political parties, then took over the leadership of the country. These groups hope to have new presidential elections not later than the summer of 1958.

Colombia, with 439,553 square miles, is the fourth largest country in South America. It is outranked in size by Brazil, Argentina, and Peru. Mountain ranges rise in the western part of Colombia, while much of the east is covered with low-lying jungles.

Many of Colombia's 12,657,000 people work on farms. They grow coffee, bananas, cotton, and vegetables. They also raise livestock.

Colombia is rich in natural resources. Valuable supplies of platinum, gold, and emeralds are found in parts of the country. Oil is a major export. From its forests, Colombia gets rubber, lumber, and vanilla to sell abroad.

Disarmament Chief

Harold Stassen, who has been discussing disarmament plans with British, French, Canadian, and Russian representatives in London for some weeks now, feels there is a good chance for a global arms reduction agreement. Mr. Stassen is Special Assistant to the President on Disarmament.

Now 50, Stassen has been in the



HAROLD STASSEN, the President's Special Assistant for dealing with the Soviet Union and other nations in trying to work out agreements on disarmament

public eye for many years. He won his first public office—that of county attorney—at the age of 23. At 31, he became governor of his home state of Minnesota—the youngest man ever to hold that office. He was twice re-elected.

During World War II, Stassen resigned as governor to join the Navy. Later, he became an American delegate to the meeting in San Francisco at which the United Nations was organized.

Stassen tried to win the Republican nomination for President in 1948 and again in 1952, but failed both times. Between elections, he was president of the University of Pennsylvania.

After General Eisenhower was elected President in 1952, Stassen became the new foreign aid chief. The former Minnesota governor took over his present post in 1955.

Memorial Day

On Thursday, May 30, we pay special honor to all armed forces members who gave their lives for our country. On Memorial Day, Americans place flowers and flags on the graves of men who died in battle. Military parades and other special programs will be held.

The idea for a day to commemorate the war dead originated when southern women scattered spring flowers on the graves of soldiers from both sides in the Civil War. Later, many states set aside May 30 as a day to honor men who died in that conflict. Now, the war dead of all our major conflicts are remembered on Memorial Day.

A number of southern states, though, still have a separate day to honor their men who fell in the Civil War. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi set aside April 26 to pay tribute to these men. North and South Carolina observe the holiday on May 10, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee on June 3.

While Memorial Day is intended chiefly to honor the war dead, it is also a traditional day for families to decorate the graves of their relatives.

Vital Decisions

Decisions now being made in Congress will greatly affect our future and that of our country. They include decisions on such vital matters as the size of our defense forces, the amount of aid we should supply to friendly countries overseas, how much assistance the federal government should give to the nation's schools, and a host of other highly important issues.

President Eisenhower has asked for 71.8 billion dollars to pay for these and other programs during the coming year. He feels that this amount is the minimum needed for building up an adequate defense force, and for providing the nation with other programs that Americans need and want.

Earlier this month, the President made a radio and television appeal to the nation in an effort to win popular support for his spending program. Last week, he gave another special radio and TV talk to win backing for his 3.8 billion-dollar foreign aid plan.

Some Americans strongly support the President's budget and feel that the proposed expenditures are essential for the nation's welfare. Others sharply criticize the White House spending plan, saying it can be trimmed substantially without seriously weakening our defenses or affecting welfare at home.

How do you feel about this issue? Write to your senators and representatives, giving them your opinion on this and other matters. Also write to



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

COLOMBIA, her president forced out of office, is now under military rule

the White House and to your community newspaper, telling how you feel about such issues as this one. Remember, letters from individual Americans carry a great deal of weight on Capitol Hill, in government offices, and in newspapers.

By expressing your opinion in this way, you are influencing public policies, and helping to strengthen the cause of democracy.

War on Cancer

Congress is now studying a proposal to set aside \$500,000,000 for research work to fight cancer. A proposal calling for the spending of this sum of money over the next few years was introduced a short time ago by Democratic Senator Richard Neuberger of Oregon.

Supporters of this plan say: "We spend billions upon billions of dollars on defense, yet we provide very little money for the war on cancer—a disease that has already killed many more persons than have died in all our wars. The lives of about 250,000 Americans are taken each year by cancer. It is high time we provided adequate funds to help conquer this dread disease."

Opponents of the idea argue: "It is true that the fight against cancer is an important one. But funds for research programs in this field should continue to come chiefly from private contributions. Otherwise, the already huge federal budget will grow even larger in size. Also, a big federal cancer research program would open the way for additional government interference in the activities of private citizens."

On this issue, like that of President Eisenhower's spending program, you

can make your influence felt by expressing your views in letters to government officials and newspapers.

Congress Roundup

Leaders of the Democratic-controlled 85th Congress hope to adjourn by the middle or end of July. To meet that deadline, the lawmakers must act on a long list of bills now up for consideration. Some of Capitol Hill's unfinished business includes proposals calling for:

1. A plan for 3.8 billion dollars in foreign aid. (The President recently reduced his overseas assistance request from 4.4 to 3.8 billion dollars largely in response to congressional demands for reductions in government spending this year.)

2. A measure to relax restrictions on immigrants, especially refugees coming from communist-dominated lands.

3. Large-scale federal aid to schools.

4. A bill to strengthen the country's civil rights laws.

5. Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii.

6. Higher postal rates to help make the Post Office Department self-supporting.

Congress has taken action on a number of measures thus far in 1957, including the following:

1. Approval of the President's plan for defending the Middle East against communist aggression, and for providing additional aid to lands in that part of the globe.

2. Extension of special taxes on business earnings.

3. Drought relief for farmers in western and southwestern states.

In addition, Congress has approved a number of bills providing funds to

enable government agencies to carry on their work for the coming year.

Brighter Outlook

Walter Lippmann, well-known columnist, gives the following reasons why he believes some kind of disarmament plan may soon be agreed upon:

Both military coalitions—the western nations led by the United States, and Russia with her satellites—are finding that the competition in armaments has reached a point where they can hardly stand the strain.

This fact, together with the realization by both sides that a modern nuclear war might destroy our present civilization, could help bring about a disarmament agreement at long last.

Our Democracy

Carol Rowlands, a 17-year-old junior at the Johnson Creek, Wisconsin, High School, expressed her feelings about democracy in a Wisconsin State debating contest. Here, in summary form, is what she said:

During the past 27 weeks, I've spent 1 hour, 5 days a week in an American history class trying to understand and appreciate what makes our government tick. One word above all others describes how our system works—democracy.

But what does this word mean? The dictionary tells us it means a form of government under which the people have the power to govern themselves.

To an immigrant—particularly one from an Iron Curtain land—approaching New York Harbor for the first time, democracy means much more than that. Words cannot describe the feeling he has when he sees the Statue of Liberty and learns its inscription which says "Give me your tired, your poor." Words cannot describe the feeling he has when he finds he can buy a railroad ticket to a little town in Oregon without being questioned about his past, or where he is going and why.

But what about ourselves? As high school students, we must not let the great values of democracy slip through our fingers. We must—to borrow a phrase from television—"See It Now,"



ASIAN VISITORS. These are young farmers from India, Pakistan, and Nepal. They are part of a group of 53 men and women who will learn U. S. agricultural methods by living and working on our farms for 6 months. The National 4-H Club Foundation is sponsoring the visitors, who will be stationed in 31 states.

and appreciate democracy. We must realize how lucky we are to live in a land of unexcelled opportunity and freedom. See it now—don't wait one day longer.

Yes, Carol is right. All of us should deeply appreciate democracy. Moreover, we should be informed, active citizens so as to safeguard our great political and other advantages.

This and That

Uncle Sam is planning to resume shipments of arms to Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito. Such shipments were suspended last year when it was feared that Yugoslavia might once again become a partner of Russia as a result of friendly talks in 1956 between Tito and Soviet leaders.

Since that time, though, Tito has shown that he intends to stay free of Russian control, and he's urged Moscow to free her satellites.

Italy is now trying to organize a new government headed by Adone Zoli as premier. Zoli, who was asked to form a cabinet by President Giovanni Gronchi, is scheduled to seek parliamentary approval of his group later this week.

If Parliament supports Zoli, he will take over the reins of government from outgoing Premier Antonio Segni. Segni resigned from his post earlier this month when he lost legislative support for his program.

Britain is the third world power to have exploded a hydrogen bomb. Before the current British nuclear tests began earlier this month in the Pacific region, only the United States and Russia had exploded the dread H-bomb.

The United Nations Security Council opened new debates on the future of the Suez Canal last week. France called on the UN body to try for a plan under which there would be some international supervision over the waterway. At present, the canal is under the sole control of Egypt.

Haiti is in trouble again. New riots rocked the Caribbean island country a short time ago. Trouble broke out when leaders opposed to the present ruling army group tried to take over the government. Opposition leaders accuse the army group of "rigging" the elections, scheduled for June 16, in its favor.

Goodbye Until Fall

In accordance with our schedule, subscriptions for this school year expire with this issue of the AMERICAN OBSERVER. The paper, though, is published during the summer months, and we invite readers to subscribe.

The summer subscription price, in clubs of 5 or more, is 3½ cents per copy a week, or 40 cents for the summer. For fewer than 5 copies, each subscription is 50 cents, payable in advance. The summer period includes the issues of June, July, and part of August.

Meanwhile, teachers who have not already placed their tentative classroom orders for next fall may wish to do so. By ordering now, they will automatically and without delay receive their copies of the AMERICAN OBSERVER at the beginning of the next school term, and they may then change their orders according to needs.

We hope that all of our readers have a most enjoyable summer!

Pronunciations

Adone Zoli—ä-dawn'ë zō'li

Antonio Segni—än-tō'nyō sē'nyē

Giovanni Gronchi—jō-vā'n'ē grōn'kē

Gustavo Rojas Pinilla—gōōs-tā'vō rō'-hās pī-nē'yā

News Quiz

America: 1945-57

1. Mention at least 2 important population trends in postwar America.
2. Congress established the Atomic Energy Commission in 1946. What are its duties?
3. Briefly describe the reorganization of defense agencies which occurred shortly after World War II.
4. What does the 22nd Amendment provide?
5. How many elections since World War II have produced divided party control between Congress and the White House?
6. Identify Sam Rayburn; Joseph Martin, Jr.; Nathan Twining.
7. Name the country's 3 Chief Justices since World War II.
8. About how many people are now serving in the U. S. armed forces—1,500,000; 2,800,000; 3,670,000; or 12,300,000?
9. What is the most costly item in the federal budget? What is the largest source of revenue?
10. Average U. S. incomes (after taxes) have risen more than 50 per cent since 1946. Explain why the individual's buying power hasn't risen to the same extent.
11. Mention at least 3 ways in which the government has sought to help farmers cope with the problem of surpluses and low prices.
12. Define *closed shop* and *union shop*. Which is banned by the Taft-Hartley Act?
13. Briefly define *automation*.
14. Give some arguments for and against large-scale federal power projects.
15. Who, in general, were the refugees that came to America shortly after World War II? Later on, what drove large numbers to our shores?
16. In the years since World War II, has U. S. foreign trade risen, fallen, or remained about the same?
17. Which have been larger—imports or exports?
18. With respect to the Supreme Court's anti-segregation ruling, have all states reacted in the same way? Explain.
19. Mention at least 3 important postwar trends or developments in the health field.
20. Discuss: (1) the rise, after World War II, of concern about communist activities in America; and (2) Senator McCarthy's role in the dispute over communism.
21. What goal have Alaska and Hawaii long been seeking?
22. Some of our most serious problems here at home result mainly from present-day world strife. Explain.

Discussion

1. What do you regard as the most important trend or event on the national scene since World War II? Give reasons for your answer.
2. In your opinion, what is our most serious domestic problem today? Explain.
3. Do you feel that we have chalked up a reasonably good record in handling our problems, here at home, during the last dozen years? Why or why not?

Miscellaneous

1. What is Colombia doing to restore democracy within its borders?
2. Why is Harold Stassen in the news?
3. How do you feel about President Eisenhower's proposed 71.8 billion-dollar government spending program?
4. Would you favor or oppose a half-billion-dollar federal grant for cancer research? Give reasons for your answer.
5. Name some measures passed by the 85th Congress. What proposals must the lawmakers still act upon this year?

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (c) stricken; 2. (c) undoubtedly; 3. (b) varied; 4. (c) unvarying; 5. (a) debate and argument; 6. (b) order of business.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Sergeant: What is the first thing you do when cleaning your rifle?
Private: Look at the number.
Sergeant: And what has that got to do with it?
Private: To make sure that I'm cleaning my own gun.



"She wants to know if you're the intellectual type."

The sergeant had corrected and criticized the private at every turn. Finally, the private disgustedly said:
"The last place I was working, I was fired when I proved unsatisfactory."

Sergeant: Now take that rifle and find out how to use it.
Private: Tell me one thing; is it true that the harder I pull the trigger, the farther the bullet will go?

Probably one reason why the policeman likes his job is that the customer is always wrong.

An instrument has been invented in Russia that is said to be similar to a bagpipe but is much easier to play. That country seems to want to do nothing but cause trouble.

Young people who wonder how old they'll have to be in order to do as they please should forget about it. No one has ever lived that long.

"Yes, madam," said the postal clerk, "this package is all right. As a matter of fact, you have three cents too much postage on it."
"Oh dear," she answered, "I hope it won't go too far."

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